



**15/03/2012**  
**WEEK 11 – 2012**

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## **Groot brandstofprysstygings in April verwag**

*Petru Fourie (landbou-ekoonom: Insette en Produksie, Graan SA)*

► Volgens die jongste inligting van die Sentrale Energiefonds word verwag dat die petrolprys op 4 April 2012 met 56 sent per liter en die dieselprys met 41 sent per liter kan **STYG**.

Dié verwagte styging word toegeskryf aan die stygings in die algemene brandstofbelasting en die Padongeluksfondsheffing, wat in April 2012 in werking tree, en ook omdat die berekeninge van die Sentrale Energiefonds tans 'n onderverhaling in brandstofpryse aandui. Die belasting op diesel gaan met 20 sent per liter en die Padongeluksfondsheffing met 8 sent per liter styg. Die dieselkorting waarvoor produsente kwalifiseer, styg egter slegs met 12.8 sent per liter.

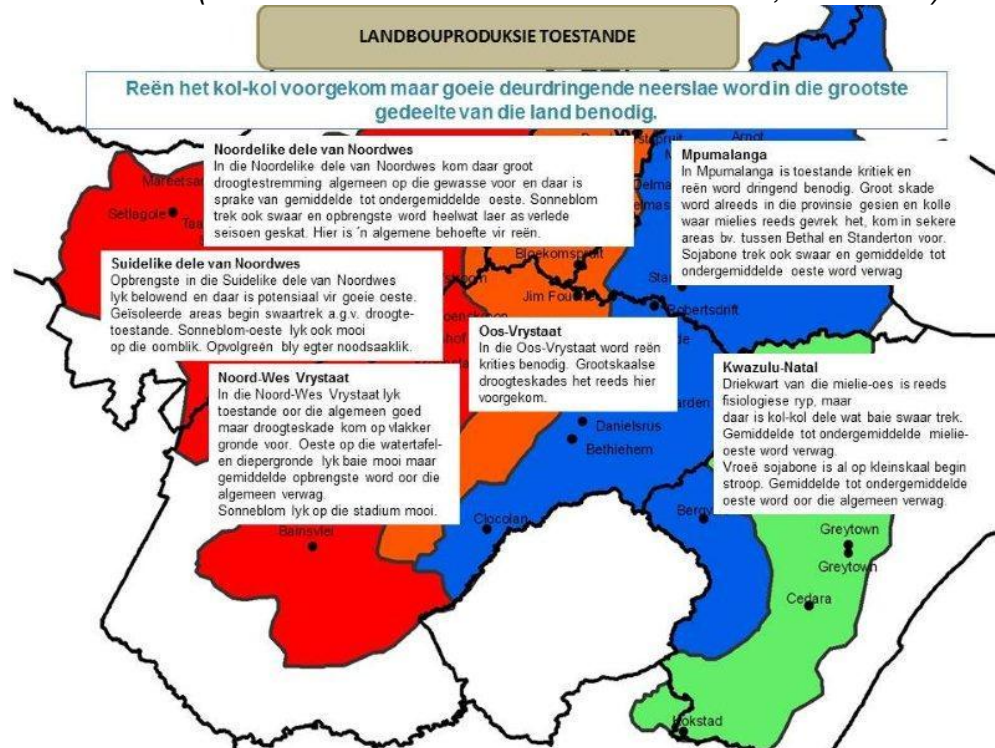
### **Dieselkorting berekening**

Padongeluksfondsheffing = 88 c/l x 100% = 88 c/l  
Belastingkomponent = 175 c/l x 40% = 70 c/l  
Totale korting = 158 c/l

Om voorsiening te maak vir die gedeelte wat nie op die plaas verbruik word nie, kwalifiseer produsente egter net vir 80% van die totale korting wat dus 126,4 sent per liter behoort. Die dieselkorting styg dus op 4 April vanaf 113,6 sent per liter na 126.4 sent per liter.

# Landboustoestande

Petru Fourie (landbou-ekonomiese Insette en Produksie, Graan SA)



[Terug na bo](#)

## Grondboon Meganisasie-inligtingsdag

Petru Fourie (landbou-ekonomiese Insette en Produksie, Graan SA)

'n Grondboon Meganisasie-inligtingsdag word op Dinsdag 20 Maart 2012 by die Hoopstad Skougronde om 9:30 gehou. Vandaar word vertrek na die woonplaas van Martiens Prinsloo ( $\pm 5$  km vanaf Hoopstad op die Wesselsbron/Hoopstadpad), waar meer as 150 verskillende lyne van Spaanse, Runners, Virginias, ens besigtig kan word. Plantpopulasie en bemestingwaarnemings is ook onder bespreking en grondboonstropers en uithalers deur Valtrac, Colombo en Rovic Leers word ook ten toon gestel.

Dit is van die grootste verskeidenheid nuwe grondboonkultivar aanplantings in Suid Afrika. Moet dit nie misloop nie.

Vir enige verdere navrae kontak Gerrit Fourie (083 2725555) of Alfons Visser (082 9482222).

## Spinmyte in mielies

Annemie Erasmus en Koos van Rensburg (LNR-Instituut vir Graangewasse)

Min boere besef dat spinmyte algemeen in die laat seisoen in rypwordende mielies voorkom. Omdat die plante se blare op hierdie stadium besig is om van onder af te verbruin, word die teenwoordigheid van die spinmyte nie agtergekom nie en omdat daar nie oesverliese ter sprake is nie, word dit geïgnoreer. Dit gebeur egter dikwels dat myte op 'n vroeë stadium problematies word. Dit gebeur wanneer piretroïde teen laat besmettings van stamruspers toegedien word, veral as dit onder spulpuntbesproeiing is waar die totale oppervlakte behandel word en nie net op die ry toegedien word nie. Piretroïde beheer nie die myte nie, maar vernietig hulle natuurlike vyande en omdat die myte vinnig aantel, lei dit dan tot bevolkingsontploffings. As daar egter droogtetoestande is, is myte geneig om te floreer en die huidige probleem is waarskynlik tot 'n mate aan die skraps reënval te wye.

Die myte suig plantsap en in die proses word die epidermisselle van die blaar sodanig beskadig dat die plant uitermatig vog verloor. Die effek is dus soortgelyk aan dié van droogtetoestande en as 'n bepaalde omgewing droogte ondervind, kan ernstige skade binne een week aangerig word. Vanselfsprekend is die plant besonder vatbaar tydens die periode wanneer die pitte gevul word.

'n Drumpelwaarde vir chemiese beheer bestaan ongelukkig nie. As die pitte egter begin induik of naby daaraan is, is dit waarskynlik nie die koste werd om te beheer nie. Op vroeëre stadiums is beheermaatreëls noodsaaklik. Daar is verskeie mytdoders vir mytbeheer in mielies geregistreer met aktiewe bestanddele *amitraz*, *bifenthrin* en *progargite*.



## Bio-etanol produksie in Bothaville kan sorghumbedryf ondersteun

*Barrett Schoeman (landbou-ekonoom: Markomgewing, Graan SA)*

Tydens Graan SA se jaarlikse kongres het Mnr. Philip Bouwer en Asogan Moodaley van Mabele Fuels die sorghum-wegbreeksessie bygewoon om duidelikheid oor die ontwikkeling van die bio-etanol aanleg op Bothaville te verskaf.

Die bio-etanol aanleg is die gevorderste aanleg van al die biobrandstofprojekte in Suid-Afrika. Sterling Waterford het 'n lisensie om etanol uit sorghum te vervaardig en besit 'n aandeel in Mabele Fuels. Die projek is reeds gelisensieer en omgewingsimpakstudies is voltooi.

Die projek is nie deel van die Nywerheid Ontwikkelingskorporasie (IDC) se ontwikkelingsprojekte nie, maar word deur een van Suid-Afrika se banke en ander private instansies gefinansier. Die finansieringspakket beloop nagenoeg R1.7 miljard maar die betaling daarvan is onderhewig aan sekere vereistes. Een daarvan is dat die konsepbeleid op die inmengkoers van 2% bio-etanol by brandstof eers deur die regering goedgekeur en afgekondig moet word.

Daar word verwag dat die wetgewing teen Mei 2012 afgekondig sal word, waarna konstruksie van die aanleg teen Junie 2012 kan begin. Die tydlyn vir die bou van die aanleg op Bothaville is 24 maande. Die aankoop van sorghum behoort teen die 22ste maand te begin geskied. Die aanleg gaan 24 uur per dag en sewe dae van die week in produksie wees.

Nagenoeg 400 000 ton sorghum, waarvan 25% vanaf ontwikkelende produsente moet kom, gaan per jaar benodig word om in die verwagte inmengkoers (van 2%) te kan voorsien. Indien ontwikkelende produsente nie teen 2014 25% van die benodigde sorghum kan verskaf nie, kan die sorghum (as alternatief) vir 'n wyle vanaf kommersiële produsente verkry word.

Gedurende die afgelope vyf jaar is daar gemiddeld 204 000 ton sorghum per jaar geproduseer. Teen 'n gemiddelde opbrengs van 2.73 ton/ha sal sorghumaanplantings vanaf gemiddeld 75 000 ha per jaar tot 221 000 ha moet toeneem om net in die Bothaville-aanleg asook die normale plaaslike vraag na sorghum te kan voorsien.

Mabele Fuels is nie bekommerd dat suiker as grondstof by die 2% inmengkoers ingesluit gaan word nie aangesien die regering op die ontwikkeling van die sorghumindustrie asook sorghumproduksie onder ontwikkelende produsente gefokus is.

Enige tipe sorghum (GM/GH/GL) kan in die aanleg gebruik word alhoewel sorghum met tannien (GH en GL) verkies word deur produsente omdat dit hoër opbrengste lewer en nie deur kweleas gevreet word nie. Die aanleg is vir die langtermyn ook ontwikkel om van mielies gebruik te kan maak om bio-etanol te kan vervaardig.

Langtermyn kontrakte (5 – 7 jaar) sal met produsente gesluit word om sorghum aan die aanleg te voorsien. Mabele Fuels onderhandel ook met die regering oor die opgradering van die omliggende paaie in en uit Bothaville om die toename van vragmotors te kan akkommodeer.

Alhoewel die winsgewendheid van die aanleg bepaal word deur die vlak van regeringsondersteuning en die ruolieprys, kan die aanleg sonder die owerheidsinsentiewe lewensvatbaar wees. Die bio-etanol behoort ook winsgewend uitgevoer te kan word. Die huidige hoë ruolie-prysvlakke maak bio-etanolproduksie uit sorghum tans winsgewend.

Daar is voorgestel dat die prys waarteen sorghum vanaf produsente aangekoop word nie vanaf die SAFEX prys afgelei word nie. Die prys kan eerder afgelei word vanaf die produksiekoste van sorghum elke jaar. Daar kan ook na 'n stelsel gekyk word waar produsente premies kan verdien indien 'n beter kwaliteit sorghum gelewer word. Onderhandelinge met produsente sal begin geskied sodra verpligte inmenging deur die regering afgekondig is.

## **Graan SA advertensieveldtog**

*Marna Swart (skakelbeampte, Graan SA)*

Die Graan SA advertensieveldtog het op 1 Maart op verskillende DSTV-kanale, SABC 2 *Morning Live* asook SAFM en Talk 702 afgeskop.

Die veldtog dien as ondersteuning vir Graan SA se strategiese doelwitte om nouer samewerking met die regering te bewerkstellig rakende belangrike kwessies soos onder andere voedselsekuriteit en werkskepping. Daarom teiken die veldtog die beleidmakers en besluitnemers in die regering.

Die advertensies sal deur die loop van Maart en April op verskillende kanale uitgesaai word en dan weer vanaf Julie tot Augustus.

Besoek <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TttPcb1WlQI&feature=youtu.be> om die televisie advertensie te besigtig.



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- Grain SA advertising campaign

## **Great fuel price increases expected in April**

*Petru Fourie (agricultural economist: Inputs and Production, Grain SA)*

According to the latest information from the Central Energy Fund, the petrol price may **RISE** by 56 cents a litre on 4 April 2012, while the diesel price may **RISE** by 41 cents a litre on that same date.

The anticipated increases may be attributed to increases in the general fuel taxes and Road Accident Fund levies, which will be effective from April 2012, and also because the calculations of the Central Energy Fund currently shows an under recovery of fuel prices. The tax on diesel will rise by 20 cents and the Road Accident Fund levy by 8 cents per litre. The diesel rebate, for which producers qualify, will only increase with 12.8 cents per litre.

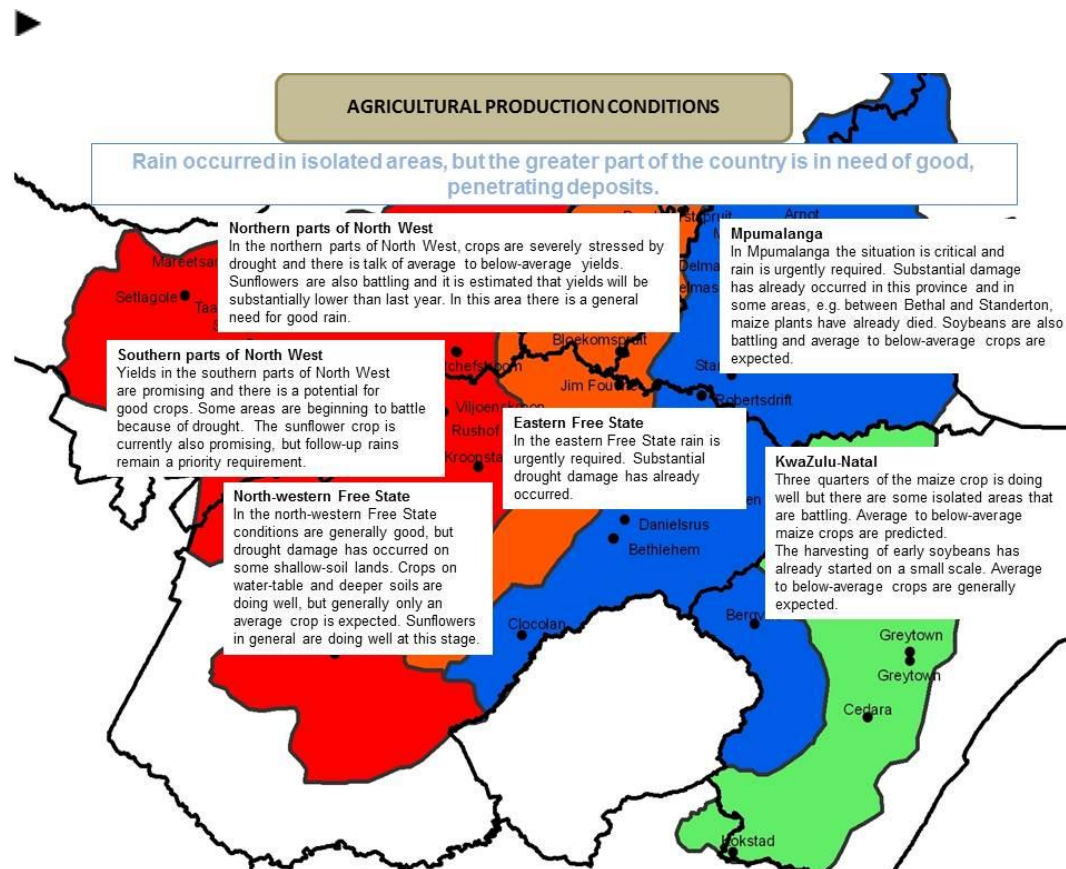
### **Diesel rebate calculation**

Road Accident Fund levy	= 88 c/l x 100% = 88 c/l
Tax component	= 175 c/l x 40% = 70 c/l
Total rebate	= 158 c/l

In order to provide for the diesel portion that is not used on the farm, producers only qualify for 80% of the total rebate which is 126.4 cents a litre. The diesel rebate thus increases on 4 April from 113,6 cent per litre to 126.4 cent per litre.

## Agricultural conditions

Petru Fourie (agricultural economist: Inputs and Production, Grain SA)



## Groundnut Mechanization Information Day

Petru Fourie (agricultural economist: Inputs and Production, Grain SA)

► A Groundnut Mechanization Information Day will be held at the Hoopstad Show grounds at 9:30 on 20 March 2012. From there attendees will go to the farm of Martiens Prinsloo (± 5 km from Hoopstad on the Wesselsbron/Hoopstad road) where more than 150 different lines of Spanish, Runners, Verginias, etc. can be viewed. Plant population and fertilizer observations will be discussed and groundnut harvesters and lifters will be exhibited by Valtrac, Colombo and Rovic Leers.

It is the widest variety of new groundnut cultivar plantings in South Africa and should not be missed.

For further enquiries, please contact Gerrit Fourie (083 2725555) or Alfons Visser (082 9482222).

## Spider mites in maize

Annemie Erasmus en Koos van Rensburg (ARC- Grain Crops Institute)

► Few farmers realise that spider mites commonly occur in ripening maize in the late season. Because at this stage the leaves of the plants are browning from the bottom up, the presence of spider mites is not noticed. Even if it is noticed, it is ignored because crop losses are not at stake. However, it frequently happens that mites become a problem at an earlier stage. It occurs when pyrethroids are applied against the late occurrence of stalk caterpillars – especially if this is done by centre-pivot spraying, where the total surface area is treated, rather than by row-by-row application. Pyrethroids do not just control the mites, it also destroys their natural enemies and since the mites breed very quickly, it leads to population explosions. However, if drought conditions prevail mites are inclined to flourish, and the current problem is probably due in part to the scarcity of rain.

The mites suck juice from the plant, and in this process the epidermic cells of the leaves are damaged to the point where the plant loses large amounts of moisture. The effect is the same as that caused by drought and should a given area experience a lack of rainfall, serious losses can occur within one week. Naturally the plant is particularly vulnerable during the period when the kernels are filling.

Unfortunately, there is no threshold value for chemical control. If the kernels have started making dimples or are close to starting, control will probably not be cost effective. In earlier stages, control is imperative. A number of agro chemicals for the control of mites in maize have been registered. Their active ingredients are amitraz, bifenthrin and progarfite.



## **Bio-ethanol production in Bothaville could boost sorghum industry**

*Barrett Schoeman (agricultural economist: Market Environment, Grain SA)*

► During Grain SA's annual congress mr Philip Bouwer and mr Asogan Moodaley from Mabele Fuels attended the sorghum break-away session to give feedback on the progress of the bio ethanol plant in Bothaville.

This plant is the most advanced of all the bio fuel projects in South Africa. Sterling Waterford who has a licence to produce ethanol from sorghum, owns a share in Mabele Fuels. The project is already licenced and environmental impact studies has been concluded.

The project is not part of the Industrial Development Corporation's (IDC) development projects. This project is financed by one of South Africa's leading banks and other private institutions. The financing totals approximately R1.7 billion and the payment thereof is subject to certain criteria. One of which is the approval and announcement by government of a draft policy of the blending of 2% bio-ethanol in fuel.

It is expected that legislation would be announced by May 2012, after which construction of the plant will commence by June 2012. The timeline for the construction of the plant in Bothaville is 24 months. The sourcing of sorghum should commence by the 22<sup>nd</sup> month. The plant will operate on a 24/7 basis.

Approximately 400 000 tons of sorghum, of which 25% should be sourced from developing farmers, will be required to meet the expected blending rate of 2%. If developing producers are not able to meet the 25% requirement by 2014, the sorghum could, as an alternative, be sourced from commercial producers.

During the past five years an average of 204 000 tons of sorghum was produced per annum. At an average yield of 2.73 tons/ha sorghum plantings of 75 000 ha/annum will have to increase to 221 000 ha to meet in the demand of the Bothaville plant, as well as the domestic consumption.

Mabele Fuels is not concerned that sugar will be included in the 2% blending rate since government is focusing on the development of the sorghum industry as well as sorghum production amongst developing producers.

The plant is designed to process any type of sorghum (GM/GH/GL), although producers prefer sorghum with tannin (GH and GL) as it provides higher yields and are not eaten by queleas. The plant could also run on maize to produce bio-ethanol.

Long term agreements (5-7 years) will be entered into with producers to supply sorghum. Mabele Fuels is negotiating with government regarding the upgrading of roads surrounding Bothaville to accommodate the increase of trucks on the roads.

Although the profitability of the plant will be determined by the level of government support and the crude oil price, the plant could be viable without government incentive. The bio-ethanol could also be exported profitably. The current high crude oil prices make bio-ethanol production lucrative.

## Grain SA advertising campaign

*Marna Swart (PRO, Grain SA)*

► The Grain SA advertising campaign kicked off on 1 March 2012 on different DSTV channels, SABC 2 Morning Live as well as SAFM and Talk 702.

The campaign supports Grain SA's strategic objectives to establish closer co-operation with government regarding important issues such as food security and job creation. Therefore the campaign targets policy and decision makers in government.

The advertisements will be broadcast throughout March and April and then again throughout July and August.

Visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TttPcb1WlQI&feature=youtu.be> to view the television advertisement.